

# The Hong Kong Daily Press.

No. 4776 號六十七百七千四第

日六初月二年酉癸治同

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, 4TH, MARCH, 1873.

二拜禮

號四月三英

港香

PRICE \$2 PER MONTH.

## Arrivals.

March 2, ELEANOR DIXON, Brit. bark, 495, W. Hughes, Singapore 19th February, Turner, Thor, HOWARD & Co., March 2, SAN LORENZO, Span. brig, 220, P. Iodessa, Manila 22nd February, General, REMEDIOS & Co.,

March 3, ESPERANCE, French brk, 272, GUILLOU, Amoy 1st March, RICOU, ROUSSEL & Co.,

March 3, CITY OF EXETER, Brit. sfr, 787, BOVEY, Kobs via Amoy 22nd February, RICE, RUSSELL & Co.

## Departures.

March 3, MINAHLER, str, for Yokohama, March 3, PROVENANT, str, for Shanghai, March 3, TAPFABETTE, for Batavia, March 3, KWANGTUNG, str, for Swatow, &c., March 3, LUNA CANEVARO, for Macao, March 3, NAMOA, str, for Saigon, March 3, CHINKIANG, str, for Canton, March 3, H.I.R.M. CO., VITIAZ, for North.

## Clearances.

AT THE HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE, MARCH 3RD.

Kwangtung, str, for Swatow, &c., Chinkiang, str, for Canton, Liwei Canevaro, for Macao, George, for Samanang, Fyen, for Tsinian, Namoa, str, for Saigon, Duna, str, for Yokohama, Eberen Smae, for Bangkok.

## Passengers.

For Chinkiang, str, for Canton, 10 Chinese deck. Per Luis Canevaro, for Macao, 10 Chinese riggers. Per Eastern Star, for Bangkok, 20 Chinese deck. For Namoa, str, for Saigon, Mr. Grun and 60 Chinese.

## Reports.

The Spanish brig San Lorenzo reports left Manila on 22nd February, had strong monsoon and high sea throughout.

The British steamship City of Exeter reports left Kobe on 22nd February, had strong Northerly winds; passed the steamship Yesso off Chelang Point, at 8:30 p.m. of the 2nd instant.

The French bark Esperance reports left Amoy on 1st March, had strong E.N.E. monsoon throughout.

The British bark Eleanor Dizon reports left Singapore on 13th January; came the Eastern Passage. Had the first part up to the 16th moderate S.E. winds, after which wind veered to the Eastward, and experienced several heavy seas with much rolling. On the 17th, Salvo on 21st January, had the moderate S.E. winds soon up to the 29th; after which fresh winds till the 12th Feb., when it veered to the Northward. On the 13th a gale commenced to blow from the N.W., increasing daily, till the 19th, when the gale was at its height; then the ship to a terrible gale, a heavy sea running during the whole time, the deck continually filled with water. On the 20th, the seas carried away bulkards, and with the heavy weather the crew were kept continually on deck. On the 21st, the gale moderated, and veered to the Northward again, and kept moderate till the 23rd; sailing Batangtan on the 24th; from the 25th till the 28th got moderate and fresh Westerly winds, when experienced another bad gale from the W.N.W., lasting 24 hours, a heavy sea running; after which got moderate and fresh N.E. monsoon till arrival.

Vessels that have arrived in Europe from Ports in China, Japan and Manilla.

(Per last Mail's Advice.)

Vessel's Name	From	Date.
Globe	Manila	Jan. 6
China	Amoy	Jan. 13
Leicester	Shanghai	Jan. 14
Ems	Foochow	Jan. 14
Zembla	Foochow	Jan. 14
Easer	Foochow	Jan. 15
Ziba	Foochow	Jan. 15
Woodlark	Shanghai	Jan. 15
Chinaman	Canton	Jan. 16

Vessels Expected at Hongkong.

(Corrected to Date.)

Vessel's Name	From	Date.
Queen of the Seas	Penang	May 18
Bimayala	New York	May 18
Elizabet	New York	May 18
Amicella	Glasgow	May 21
Warrior	New York	Aug. 3
Yokohama	New York	Sept. 6
Sea Gull (s)	Falmouth	Oct. 20
Loocchoo	Sunderland	Jan. 2
Aja (s)	Liverpool	Jan. 11
Dabreak (s)	London	Jan. 11
Italy (s)	Liverpool	Jan. 11
Hongkong (s)	London	Jan. 14

Vessels from Ports in China and Japan expected in Europe and America.

(Corrected to Date.)

Vessel's Name	From	Date.
FROM HONGKONG.		
Princess	Channel (s)	Nov. 1
Cores	London	Nov. 2
Sir Harry Parkes	London	Nov. 3
Lord Brothman	London (s)	Nov. 6
Theodosia	Hamburg	Nov. 8
Makado	Falmouth (s)	Dec. 30
Clarus	London	Dec. 11
Sir Wm. Wallace	New York	Jan. 15
Her Majesty	New York	Jan. 19
Ride	New York	Jan. 19
Irvine	New York	Jan. 20
Genibek	New York	Feb. 4

FROM WHAMPOA.

S. G. Glover New York | Oct. 23 |

S. D. Clarke New York | Oct. 29 |

Wich New York | Nov. 27 |

Early Morn. New York | Nov. 28 |

Taiwan Hamburg | Dec. 5 |

Lenox Castle London | Dec. 10 |

Midnight New York | Dec. 13 |

Per Ardua New York | Dec. 15 |

Everhard New York | Dec. 31 |

FROM MACAO.

Star of China London | Nov. 1 |

FROM AMOY.

Thracian New York | Dec. 2 |

J. R. Worcester New York | Dec. 16 |

FROM SHANGHAI.

Makado New York | Oct. 21 |

Sir Jamesee Family London London | Oct. 23 |

Arby Maid London | Oct. 29 |

Archon New York | Nov. 29 |

Elizabet New York | Nov. 29 |

Fancy Brokerage New York | Nov. 4 |

Moro Castle New York | Nov. 15 |

Mary Whittridge New York | Nov. 15 |

Olar Babu New York | Nov. 23 |

Dilkhoza New York | Nov. 24 |

Cesturion New York | Nov. 26 |

Glenairn London | Nov. 29 |

Hopewell London | Dec. 29 |

Fury Cross London | Dec. |

Barbichon New York | Dec. 10 |

Elizabeth New York | Dec. 23 |

Elizabeth Graham New York | Jan. 17 |

Ouba New York | Jan. 25 |

## Banks.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, \$5,000,000 of Dollars.

RESERVE FUND, \$1,000,000 of Dollars.

Court of Directors:

Chairman—S. D. SASGON, Esq.

Deputy Chairman—W. H. FORBES, Esq.

Mr. Head, Esq.

Mr. Head, Esq.

Mr. Head, Esq.

Chief Manager:

Hongkong—James Greig, Esq.

Shanghai—Eugene Canavar, Esq.

London Bankers—London and County Bank.

HONGKONG.

INTEREST ALLOWED.

On Current Deposit Accounts at the rate of 1 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

On Fixed Deposits:

For 6 months 2 per cent. per annum.

12 "

Local Bills Discounted:

Granted interest-free Securities, and current discounting of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts granted on London, and the chief commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

JAMES GREIG, Chief Manager.

Offices of the Corporation, No. 1, Queen's Road East.

No. 1062, Hongkong, 13th February, 1873.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE DIVIDEND declared for the half-year ending on 31st December, last, at the rate of Two per cent. per annum, say \$750 per share paid-up Share of \$125, is payable on and after FRIDAY, the 14th instant, at the Offices of the Corporation, where Shareholders are requested to apply for Warrants.

By order of the Board of Directors,

JAMES GREIG,

Chief Manager.

At 273 Hongkong, 13th February, 1873.

AGRA BANK, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given, that in accordance with instructions received from the Board of Directors, the HONGKONG BRANCH will be closed on 31st December, 1872, after which date Messrs. GILMAN & Co. will act as Agents for the Bank at this Port.

H. HUGHES,

Manager, Hongkong Branch.

Queen's Road East,

Hongkong, 13th December, 1872. [See 218.]

IMPERIAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents of the above Company at this Port, are prepared to grant Policies against Fire to the extent of \$60,000 on Buildings, or on Goods stored thereon.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO.

Hongkong, 24th August, 1864.

NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents of the above Company at this Port, will charge on SHORT PERIOD Insurance, viz.—

Not exceeding 1 month 1/2 of the annual rate.

1 month 1/2 " "

3 months 1/2 " "

Above 3 months 1/2 " "

and not exceeding 6 " "

Above 6 months the full annual rate.

NOTWITHSTANDING the same.

NOW READY.

BOUND VOLUMES OF THE TRADE REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1872. Price \$10.  
At the Daily Press Office,  
Hongkong, 1st February, 1873.

## The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, MARCH 4TH, 1873.

The historian who a century or two hence reviews the relations of Foreign Powers with China in the year 1873, will probably be struck with more astonishment at the trivial nature of the questions which occupy our diplomacy at the present time than at any other feature in the retrospect. Our diplomatic intercourse with China has already been much too long for the results achieved by it. We have at the present moment scarcely a firmer footing in the country than we had in the old days of Canton. What has been done since then has only been a very gradual improvement in the degree without any difference in the kind of our position. We are still restricted practically from leaving the few ports specially opened to us by Treaty, except in the character of travellers, explorers, or missionaries. As merchants we are unable to establish ourselves anywhere beyond the boundaries laid down in a Treaty which is now fifteen years old, and which, when it was entered into, was considered as only a temporary arrangement to further and fuller advantages for foreign trade, to be secured very shortly. It does not surprise us to find that we have not made the progress expected; because it is now very clear that we have never gone about it in the right way. The Chinese, people entertain a superstition, born of vanity, which must be uprooted before we are likely to hold equal intercourse with them. Their "ways which are queer," and their "tricks which are vain," we can almost see through by this time, even if we cannot always contend against them. But their self-esteem is a quality that we have probably never yet fathomed, and it is this which begets most of the difficulties with which we have to contend. We can detect without difficulty the distorted manner in which foreign affairs are made public in China, but we have not yet found out how to prevent it. We know that it arises from a fear on the part of the Government lest any but the most supercilious language regarding the barbarians should be resented by the people as unworthy the rulers of the Middle Kingdom; we know that it is this fear which not only produces these false reports of what actually occurs between our representatives and the Government, but which also bars the way of a great deal that otherwise would occur. The Emperor's Government fears foreigners, but it fears its own subjects more.

It is easy to argue upon these premises that our policy should be to uproot this picturesque and classical, but decidedly unpractical vanity, and to exhibit ourselves to the people as all events their equals, if not their superiors. But how is this to be done? Years and years of diplomacy have failed to do it, and now we are to make the attempt through nothing less than the audience question. A noble question truly to be put forward, as it is put forward at home, as the question of the day in China. No doubt if settled satisfactorily, and satisfactorily made known to the people, some good might result, and, as recently noticed, it might be beneficial in some respects in facilitating diplomatic proceedings at the capital, but it is surely a delusion to look for any of the wonderful issues with respect to the nation generally which the importance given to the subject would lead one to expect. In the first place, whatever takes place is sure to be misrepresented to the Chinese people, and therein lies the chief importance of the question. And in the next place, even if every one in the Empire were made aware of the fact that our Ministers were received by the Son of Heaven without the kowtow, what magnificent effect would this have on our practical intercourse with the people? Surely they would supply for themselves, even if not provided with them by the authorities, the words of concession which they must consider inseparable from such a concession. And how would we be served by the concession even if it were laid before the people in its naked truth as an acknowledgment of our national equality? The sentiment of superiority to all the world is not one that a Government by any concession can very easily eradicate; and a very probable effect would be to render the Government still more unpopular, still more insuperable, than it is at present, and to stir up the latent spirit of rebellion. Looked at in one light this may possibly be a desirable result, but it is certainly not the one that the audience question is specially designed to bring about. If we are to attack the vanity of China it must be done directly, and not through any Government. The Chinese people must be made to feel their superiority themselves, since it is certain they will not hold themselves bound by any representative acknowledgment of it. The Son of Heaven is not, like the Pope, infallible. He is revered as the terrestrial deity *de facto*, but his tenure of authority is notoriously of the weakest character, and it is clear that the benefit to be derived from the right of audience being conceded must fall short of what they would be in any ordinary country, in proportion to this inherent weakness in the ruler of the nation.

An inquest was held yesterday before A. Lister, Esq., coroner, and a jury consisting of Messrs. T. J. Reynolds, F. A. Seabrook, and C. A. Brandt, on the body of a seaman, who had fallen down the hold of the French bark *Caroline*. He was received at the Seaman's Hospital on the 1st inst., and died on the 3rd. After the evidence of Dr. Adams, of the above institution, had been taken, the enquiry was adjourned until the return of the *Caroline*.

Our attention has been called to the fact that the allusion to Mr. Lister's remarks against the system of Registration in Hongkong in Saturday's paper, may make it appear that his opinion goes further than is the case, as the statement made by him to which we alluded referred only to the registration of servants, which is undoubtedly a failure, but we understand that his opinion as to the registration of ships is favourable. It seems to us, however, that if it is impossible to register a ship, it must *a fortiori* be impossible to obtain any reliable register of all the immigrants who flock to Singapore, which is the special measure upon which Governor Ord appears, according to his memorandum, to rely.

Yesterday, at 11 o'clock, H.I.M. the Grand Duke Alexei left for the North in the chartered steamer *Kuang-chung*, and was saluted by the battery and the various men-of-war in port. It is understood that H.I.M. intends to visit the Amur, and to proceed home by the Siberian route.

We recently reported a serious accident which occurred on board H.M.V. corvette *Fides*, in this harbour, on the 28th January last, by the battery and the various men-of-war in port. Eight men were dangerously wounded by the exploding stores, and were immediately removed to the Royal Naval Hospital ship *Melville*. Two died almost immediately, but the remaining six happily recovered, and have rejoined their ship. We have now to record an act on the part of H.I.M. the Grand Duke Alexei of Russia, which shows the lively interest which he takes in the welfare of His men. In token of His Imperial Highness's men, in the attention given to the Russian sailors in the Amur Hotel, He has presented Dr. Lowry, the Deputy Inspector General, with a valuable ring, the device on which is the double crown and cipher set in brilliants. The presentation took place on the eve of His Imperial Highness's departure from Hongkong.

## SUPREME COURT.

BEFORE THE HON. CHIEF JUSTICE SMALE.

Mr. H. F. Sturt applied for leave to enter into the service of a master mariner. He wished to sue a master mariner. He had not been able to find out who he was. He had no solicitor about him, but learned that the costs of the action would be high, and that his funds were small. The necessary papers being in order, his Lordship granted the application, and asked whether any barrister was willing that the case should be referred to him, to report as to whether there was a *prima facie* cause of action.

Mr. Drummond, who was in Court, said he should be perfectly willing.

The case was referred to Mr. Drummond accordingly.

## IN BANKRUPTCY.

Yip-a-fook was adjudicated bankrupt on his own petition. Mr. Toller appeared for the petitioner.

## IN PROBATE.

Letters of Administration were granted to the official administrator of the estates of Thomas Morris, a late Naval Yard constable, and a Chinaman, name unknown, No. 6.

## MARINE MAGISTRATE'S COURT.

BEFORE H. G. THOMSON, Esq., R.N.

## THE "DRAGON".

L. Clements, seaman on board the British ship *Dragon*, charged the chief officer, Edward Castle, with trying, and nearly succeeding, in bursting him overboard from that ship on 28th October, while on the high seas.

L. Clements, sworn, stated he was a seaman on board the *Dragon*. The day they left Bangkok, 18th October last, he was on the topgallant forecastle, when he saw the chief officer, Edward Castle, with trying, and nearly succeeding, in bursting him overboard from that ship on 28th October, while on the high seas.

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## Extracts.

A GENERATION BACK.  
We are apt to think the present times are sadly out of joint; To sigh, and then toward ages past! The reverent finger point. Of model husbands, model wives. Say we, there was no lack— Of manners, moral pride, and worth— A generation back.

The girls were modest, neat and fair; The boys were brave and true— They labored from sun to sun, With joys and pleasures few. The world was bright and dark, And seemed to have the knock Of being seen, and never heard— A generation back.

And thus it is from age to age, The scenes enacted long ago With partial eyes we see Our offspring in the years to come Will treat the beaten track, And praise the conduct of their sires A generation back.

## AN INTERESTING SCENE.

The following interesting scene is said to have occurred at the Palace of St. Cloud on the 13th of July, 1870, in the audience chamber of the Imperial Palace. The telegram announcing Prince António's renunciation of the crown of Spain in the name of his son has just arrived, and in the hands of the Emperor. A solemn silence prevails among the few who are present, and as the Duke de Grammont is about to speak, the Emperor motions to him to keep still. The Empress is leaning back in the recess of a window, conversing in an undertone with a maid-servant. Motionless at the latter site in his arm-chair, regarding the eventful telegram with a peculiar fixed look which appears unclouded by the shadow of a single thought. No one speaks, no one dares to interrupt his cogitations—it is his bribe war and peace are striking for the master, and the tranquility of Europe hangs upon his decision. Twenty minutes elapse—twenty weary minutes—and then the silent man raises himself from his bent position, throws his head slightly back, and with a metallic voice utters these words in a nasal tone: "Once more will I give the world an example of my moderation." "Oh, how cowed you are," shrieks the Empress, snatching the telegram from the Emperor's hand and tearing it to pieces with feverish excitement. Petticoat government asserted its sway at that critical juncture, and all resistance was at an end. Napoleon required twenty minutes to dash in favor of peace; Eugenie determined upon war in a second—*Swiss Times.*

## EARNING A LIVING.

"You see," said his lordship, "when I left the Guards, and the old poor governor turned me up, and that bankruptcy business—I've paid all the fellows since then, with five per cent. interest—was bothering me. I was awfully hard up, and didn't know literally what way to turn. I was thinking of enlisting in the Carabiniers or something desperate of that sort. Well, you know Booty, the rich auctioneer, upholsterer, and upholsterer, in St. James's Street? He furnished this house, you remember. He's disgustingly rich. They say he's going into Parliament. Well, when I was at the lowest, Booty, he kept a little green-grocer's shop in Mayfair. He had been butler in our family, you know. Well, he was a good-natured fellow, and lent me some money, and then—Well, when a fellow's hard up, he's obliged to do very shabby things. I used to go out to dinner for him." "Go out to dinner for him?"

All three accordingly entered. It was a deep grotto, strewed with bones and stained with blood. Repeating their scrutiny, lest they should be mistaken as to the cave being empty, they hastened to barricade the entrance by piling up stones, the intervening spaces being filled with boughs and dry brushwood. This only occupied a few minutes, the mouth of the cave being comparatively narrow. They then went behind their loop-holes, and awaited their prey, which was not long in coming. A lion and two lionesses approached within a hundred yards of the cave. The lion, tossing his mane and sweeping the ground with his tail, carried in his teeth an entire antelope, which he shook with as much ease as a cat would a mouse. The two lionesses frisked along at his side.

Sir John afterwards confessed that it was a moment of no little trepidation; he felt his pulses beat fast, and was conscious of something like fear; but he was soon himself again. His two companions retained their composure undisturbed.

At the sight of the barricade, the beasts paused. They were within sixty paces.

With a roar, from the lion, they all rushed into a dead stop, and then began to sitte backward. The engineer whistled down bats and got off to inspect the rails. He found that they were covered with soft soap, and as he had some previous experience, knew exactly what to do. He backed down the track about half a mile, and putting on a full head of steam, charged at the rise with full speed. When he found the speed slackening he opened his sand valves and allowed the sand in the boxes to glide on the rails in front of the driving wheel. This, to some extent, counteracted the effect of the soap, and the train got nearly fifty yards further.

Finally stopped again, and the engineer again backed out, and again charged the slope.

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## A PANIC.

When we got here (Newcastle) at noon, it appeared that the hall was a perfectly new one, and had only had the plates put upon the roofs by torchlight over night. Further, that the proprietors of some opposition rooms had decimated the building to be unsafe, and that there was a panic in the town about it; people having had their money back, and being undecided whether to come or not, and all kinds of such horrors. I didn't know what to do. The horrible responsibility of risking an accident of that awful nature seemed to rest wholly upon me; for I had only to say we wouldn't act, and there would be no chance of danger. I was afraid to take steps in council last the panic should infect our men. I asked W. what he thought, and he was consolingly observed that his direction was so bad that death had no terrors for him. I went and looked at the place, at the rafters, walls, pillars, and so forth, and fitted myself into a belief that they really were safe! To crown all, there was an arched iron roof without any brackets or pillars, and a new principle! The only comfort I had was standing a length on the builder, and finding him a plain practical north countryman, with a foot-roll in his pocket, I took him aside, and asked him whether we, or could we, put up a very weak part of the place; especially the dressing-rooms, which were under our stage; the weight of which must be heavy on a new floor and dripping wet walls. He told me there wasn't a stronger building in the world; and that, to allay the apprehension, they had opened it, on Thursday night, to thousands of the working people, and induced them to sing, and beat with their feet, and make every possible trial of the vibration. Accordingly there was nothing for it but to go on. I was in such dread, however, lost a false alarm should spring up among the audience, and occasion rush, that I kept Catherine and Georgina out of the front. When the curtain went up and I saw the great sea of faces rolling up to the roof, I looked here and looked there, and thought I saw the gallery out of the perpendicular, and fancied the lights in the ceiling were not straight. Rounds of applause were perfect agony to me, I was so afraid of their effect upon the building. I was ready all night to rush in case of an alarm—a false alarm was my main dread—and implore the people for God's sake to sit still. I had our great fire-brigade run to startle Sir Greystoke instead of throwing down a piece of wood, which might have raised a sudden apprehension. I had a palpitation of the heart, if any of our people stumbled up or down a stair, I am sure I never acted better, but the anxiety of my mind was so intense, and the release at last so great, that I sat half dead to day, and have not yet been able to eat or drink without wisdom like a song without sense, it don't please long.

"Well done, Bochejeman!" said Mokoun. At this moment the licensees, leaving the thicket, flung themselves on the lion's body. Attacked by their roar, two other lions and a third lioness appeared round the corner of the debris. Bristling with anger, they looked twice their ordinary size, and bounded forward with terrific roar.

"Now for the rifles," cried the bushman, "we must shoot them on the wing, since they will not perch."

The bushman took deliberate aim, and one shot, as if it were paralysed. The other, his pan broken by Sir John's bullet, rushed towards the barricade, followed by the infuriated licensees. Unless the rifles could now be brought successfully to bear, the three animals would succeed in entering their den.

The hunters retired; their guns were quickly reloaded; two or three lucky shots, and all would be well; but an unforeseen circumstance occurred which rendered the hunter's situation to the last degree alarming.

All at once a dense smoke filled the cave. One of the wads, falling on the dry brushwood, had set it alight, and soon a sheet of flames, fanned by the wind, lay between the men and the beasts. The lions recoiled, but they wouldn't run within 60 foot or harrassing a lion.

The owl is remarkable for two things—gravity and stupidity.

Integrity in youth is almost certain to wear well; but the honest and honor in old age.

There ain't nothing that is a sure cure for laziness, but if you know a second wife to hurry it sum.

It is the surprise or life after all that give it its zest—even a rat makes things interesting by the natural sadness with which he comes out and goes into his hole.

The greatest protest ever given to a man to solve, and the one which he has made the least progress in, is "know thyself."

Whenever you see a doctor who always travels on the run, you had best be it out of a job.

After a man has got a fast rate opinion on himself the next best thing is to be the good opinion of others.

I don't kno' a i want to be bett' money, and give odds, on the man who is always anxious tev prout loud every chance he can git.

A repastum for happiness wants as much looking into as repastum for honesty.

Affectabashun always looks well in a monkey.

Trying to define love is trying to tell how you kum tew brake the ice—all you know about it, is, yew fell in and got ducked.

A wise man never enjoys himself so much, nor a fool so little, as when alone.

I don't bet on prekous children, the huckleberry that ripens the soonest is always the first to decay.

The bulk of mankind are mere imitators or poor originals.

Without wisdom like a song without sense, it don't please long.

LION HUNTING.  
(From "Meridiana: The Adventures of Three Englishmen and Three Russians in South Africa." By Jules Verne.)

"Well," said Mokoun to Sir John, "I hope you like our African partridges."

"Delightful! delightful!" said Sir John, rubbing his leg, "but what tails they have, to be sure!"

A MANDARIN'S ESCORT.

It was the queerest cortège that we had yet seen. Twenty men mounted on steeds ponies came on, in single file, shouting Hon-cub, ton-cuh (Olow or), and as the street was only a yard and a half wide, we had to be very quick to avoid the horses' hoofs. Each of these majestic cavaliers carried a pine in one hand, and in the other his long horse-hair pigtail, with which he flogged his horse. Here the pigtail is used for everything, for beating dogs, women, and horses, and for going up to heaven. The soundron climbs unconsciously down the flights of slippery steps which connect the different levels of a Chinese street. Then, still in single file, come the lictors in red, carrying whips, axes, sabres, and chains; these are the executioners, indispensable companions of the local authority. Then, a confused crowd of 200 standard-bearers follows before us, beggars, hideous with dirt and leprosy, dressed up for the occasion in Government livery, composed of bright-coloured drapery. Finally, a dozen chairs, each carried by eight porters, pass by. They are closed palanquins, each lighted by a small square opening. The fat, round face of the Governor appears at one of these: he looks at us with a ferocious scowl, and the eighteen officers of his suite, who wear Tartar moustaches, more liberally permit the people to see them in their luxurious robes, embroidered in gold and silver. *Voyage Round the World.* *Par le Comte de Beaufort.*

No spot could be better adapted for the manoeuvre. The forced branches of a gigantic sycamore afforded a safe position, since lions do not climb, and the hunters, perched at a considerable height, could escape their bounds and aim at them under favourable conditions.

William Emery objected to the plan as being dangerous for Sir John and the bugler, but the latter would hear of no modification, and Emery reluctantly acquiesced.

Day now began to dawn, and the mountain-top was glowing in the sun. Mokoun, after seeing his four companions installed in the scowre, started off with Sir John and the bugler, and soon mounted the path which lay on the right edge of the defile.

Cautiously examining their path, they continued to advance. In the event of the lions having returned to their den and being at repose, it would be possible to make a short work of them.

After about a quarter of an hour the hunters, reaching the landscape before the cave to which Zorri had directed them, crouched down and examined the spot. It seemed a wide excavation, though at present they could hardly estimate the size. The entrance was marked by piles of bones and remains of animals, demonstrating, beyond doubt, that it was the lions' retreat.

Contrary to the hunter's expectation, the cave seemed deserted. He crept to the entrance and satisfied himself that it was really empty. Calling his companions, who joined him immediately, he said—

"Our game has not returned, Sir John, but it will not be long; I think we had better instal ourselves in this place. Better to be besieged than besiegers, especially as we have an armed succour at hand. What do you think?"

"I am at your orders, Mokoun," replied Sir John.

All three accordingly entered. It was a deep grotto, strewed with bones and stained with blood. Repeating their scrutiny, lest they should be mistaken as to the cave being empty, they hastened to barricade the entrance by piling up stones, the intervening spaces being filled with boughs and dry brushwood. This only occupied a few minutes, the mouth of the cave being comparatively narrow. They then went behind their loop-holes, and awaited their prey, which was not long in coming. A lion and two lionesses approached within a hundred yards of the cave. The lion, tossing his tail, carried in his teeth an entire antelope, which he shook with as much ease as a cat would a mouse. The two lionesses frisked along at his side.

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At the sight of the barricade, the beasts paused. They were within sixty paces.

With a roar, from the lion, they all rushed into a dead stop, and then began to sitte backward. The engineer whistled down bats and got off to inspect the rails. He found that they were covered with soft soap, and as he had some previous experience, knew exactly what to do. He backed down the track about half a mile, and putting on a full head of steam, charged at the rise with full speed. When he found the speed slackening he opened his sand valves and allowed the sand in the boxes to glide on the rails in front of the driving wheel. This, to some extent, counteracted the effect of the soap, and the train got nearly fifty yards further.

Finally stopped again, and the engineer again backed out, and again charged the slope.

The process was repeated several times, and would have finally been successful had not the sand given out. No sand could be procured anywhere, and finally the whole force of train men went to remove the soap.

This, they succeeded in doing after a half hour's hard work, and nearly an hour behind time the train reached the station. A few days after a similar difficulty was experienced.

But when the company appreciated the situation and paid the widow for her cow, the rails were allowed to remain unsanded.

## HOW SHE GOT HER PAY FOR HER COW.

Some years ago, a widow living on the line of the Ohio and Mississippi railroad, owned a young cow of which she was particularly proud. As the woman was not possessed of much of this world's goods, the cow was an important source of income to her, as she made butter for sale, and also sold some milk in the neighbourhood. One day the express train came thundering along, and struck and killed the widow's cow as it stood rambling on the track. The widow applied to the station agent for pay for the animal, and was told to send a bill to the general office of the road. She did so, but received no reply, and concluding that the road did not intend to make good her loss, swore vengeance. Little attention was paid to her threats until about a week after, when the morning passenger train, bound west, came along. The station house of Flora is situated at the top of a gentle slope, about half a mile in length. The sun was just rising, and the engineer noticed what he supposed to be a frost, clinging on the rails. He sped along the track about half way up the rise, but the driving wheel of the locomotive sprung round on the rails without pulling an ounce. The train came to a dead stop, and then began to slide backward. The engineer whistled down bats and got off to inspect the rails. He found that they were covered with soft soap, and as he had some previous experience, knew exactly what to do. He backed down the track about half a mile, and putting on a full head of steam, charged at the rise with full speed. When he found the speed slackening he opened his sand valves and allowed the sand in the boxes to glide on the rails in front of the driving wheel. This, to some extent, counteracted the effect of the soap, and the train got nearly fifty yards further.

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